

B. E. Gallagher.

**CONSTITUTION AND
RULES.**

OF THE

**Father Mathew Associ-
ation.**

*Organized at St. John, N. B.,
March 9th, 1871.*

Revised September, 1892.

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APPROVED

 *J. SWEENY,*

Bishop of St. John.

November 15th, 1885.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.—NAME.

This Organization shall be known as
"THE FATHER MATHEW ASSOCIATION."

ARTICLE II.—OBJECTS.

Its objects shall be for the general promotion of Total Abstinence among the Catholic young men of St. John, the encouragement of the members in the practice of Temperance, and also their intellectual advancement.

ARTICLE III.—MEMBERSHIP.

Sec. 1. No person shall be eligible for membership whose age does not exceed eighteen years.

2. No person shall be eligible for membership who deals in intoxicating liquors on his own account.

ARTICLE IV.--OFFICERS.

The officers shall be a Chaplain, President, Senior Vice-President, Junior Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Librarian, Assistant Librarian, Conductor, and three Trustees, one of whom shall be the Chaplain of the Association.

ARTICLE V.--ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND STANDING COMMITTEES.

Sec. 1. The Chaplain shall be a Clergyman appointed by His Lordship the bishop of the Diocese. The other Officers shall be elected by the members at the semi-annual meetings.

2. Should any office become vacant before the expiration of the term, an election for such office shall take place as soon as possible.

3. Nominations for Officers and Stand-

ing Committees shall be made at the Meeting previous to each Semi-Annual Meeting, but should all or any of the candidates so nominated for any Office or Committee decline, nomination for that Office or Committee may be made at the Semi-Annual Meeting.

4. Should two or more members be nominated for the same Office a Committee to conduct the election shall be appointed, who shall distribute ballots, collect the same after a proper interval, and announce the result of the balloting to the President, who shall declare the candidate having a majority of the votes cast elected.

5. No member indebted to the Association in the sum of Thirty-six Cents shall be eligible for Office, nor shall he have the privilege of voting for Officers.

6. No member shall be eligible for office or Standing Committees, who has not been six months a member previous to the elect-

ion, or who has violated his pledge within that period.

ARTICLE VI.--DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

Sec. 1. The Chaplain, at his earliest convenience, shall administer the pledge of Total Abstinence to each member after joining the Association, and shall be consulted upon all matters of importance.

2. The President shall preside at the meetings of the Association, shall preserve order thereat, shall decide all points of order (subject to appeal to the Association at large,) shall see that the business of the meeting is conducted in a proper manner, and attest all bills ordered to be paid by the Association.

3. The Senior Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of the latter, and in the absence of both the Junior Vice-President shall perform them.

4. The recording Secretary shall correctly record all the proceedings of the Association; shall at each meeting read the Minutes of the preceeding meeting; shall attest all bills ordered to be paid by the Association, and shall furnish the Chairman of each Committee with a list of members comprising such Committee, and also with a copy of the resolution under which said Committee was appointed.

5. The corresponding Secretary shall conduct all the correspondence of the Association; and shall be *ex officio* a member of the Investigating Committee.

6. The Financial Secretary shall keep a roll of members; call the same at the first meeting of each month, and record the attendance of the Officers at all the Regular Meetings; shall notify members when six months in arrears; shall furnish the Librarian with a list of the names of members who are three months in arrears; shal

receive the fees, dues, and fines of the members, and all moneys belonging to the Association; shall keep an account of the indebtedness of members; shall at the close of each meeting pay over to the Treasurer the money received during the Meeting, obtaining a receipt for the same; and shall at the first meetings in March, June, September, and December submit a report showing the indebtedness of the members, the number on the roll, the number initiated, and the number who have died, resigned, forfeited their membership, or been expelled during the quarter, and also the amount of money received during the same period.

7. The Treasurer shall receive all the moneys from the Financial Secreitary, giving a receipt for the same; shall pay all bills approved of by the Association; shall at quarterly meetings submit a detailed report showing the amount received and the

amount expended during the quarter; and shall at any time give such information concerning the funds in his possession as any member may require, and at the end of each quarter pay to the Trustees all moneys except the sum of Twenty Dollars.

8. The Librarian shall have charge of the Library; shall keep a catalogue of the books contained in the same; shall keep an account of the books taken out and returned by the members, with the date in each case; shall enforce the Rules adopted for the government of the Library; shall, at each meeting, pay over to the Financial Secretary all moneys received by him; and shall report quarterly to the Association the condition of the Library and a statement of its operations during the quarter.

9. The Assistant Librarian shall assist the Librarian on all occasions, and discharge the duties of Librarian in that officer's absence.

10. The Conductor shall see that none are present in the Hall at Meetings except members, or persons intending to become members on that evening, except by leave of the Association; and shall carry out the instructions of the Chairman in preserving order.

11. It shall be the duty of the Trustees to receive all moneys provided in Section 7 of this Article; to deposit the same in the Government Saving Banks without delay, in their own names in trust for the Association, and they shall not have power to withdraw any portion of it without a vote of the majority of the members present at any regular meeting of the Association, and on the application at the Bank of at least two of their number. The Trustees shall submit their Bank Book to the Audit Committee quarterly for examination.

ARTICLE VII.—STANDING COMMITTEES.

Sec. 1. At each Semi-Annual Meeting

an Investigating Committee shall be elected, to consist of three members, exclusive of the President and Corresponding Secretary.

2. The Reading Room shall be governed by a Committee of five members (under rules approved of by the Association), who shall be elected at the Semi-Annual Meetings.

3. Vacancies occurring in either of the foregoing Committees shall be filled as in the manner of vacant offices.

ARTICLE VIII.—AUDIT COMMITTEE.

At each regular meeting previous to each quarterly meeting an Audit Committee shall be appointed, who shall examine the accounts of the Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Trustees, and Librarian, and at the Quarterly Meeting report as to the correctness of the same.

ARTICLE IX.—OFFICERS PRO TEM.

In the absence of the President and Vice-Presidents, a Chairman *pro tem* shall be appointed by the meeting; and in the absence of any of the Secretaries, the Librarians or the conductor, a member shall be appointed to fill the office *pro tem*.

ARTICLE X.—MEETINGS.

Sec. 1. Semi-Annual Meetings shall be held on the first Mondays of March and September; Quarterly Meetings on the first Mondays of March, June, September, and December; and Weekly Meetings on all Monday evenings during the year, when possible.

2. The President may at any time call a Special Meeting, but he shall be bound to do so on the requisition of ten members.

3. All Special Meetings shall be advertised in at least one city daily newspaper.

4. The hour of meeting shall be at eight

o'clock.

5. If any meeting be not adjourned before ten o'clock, the Chairman shall at that hour declare the meeting adjourned and vacate the chair.

ARTICLE XI—QUORUM.

Ten members shall constitute a Quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE XII—FEES AND DUES.

Sec. 1. Every member on his enrolment shall pay an initiation fee of 25 cents.

2. Every member shall pay into the funds the sum of twelve cents monthly, payable at the first regular meeting in each month.

ARTICLE XIII.—THE PLEDGE

Sec. 1. Every member on his initiation shall take the following Pledge of Total Abstinence at the hands of the Chaplain, unless he presents a certificate from a Clergyman that he has already taken the pledge:

"I promise with the Divine assistance, to abstain from all Intoxicating Drinks, except used medicinally by order of a medical man, and to discontinue the cause and practice of Intemperance.

2. By taking the pledge, a member shall be held to bind himself to abstain not only from the use of wines, ardent spirits, ale, porter, ginger wine, cider, lager beer, and hop beer, but also from any other drink which he knows or conscientiously believes to be intoxicating.

3. The duration of the Pledge shall not be less than one year; and on the enrolment of each member he shall state to the Financial Secretary the length of time for which he has taken the Pledge.

4. All persons enrolled as members who, owing to the absence of the Chaplain, do not take the Pledge on the night of their enrolment, shall be held to be morally bound by the principles of Total Abstinence; in case any such member shall drink

intoxicating liquors, he shall be dealt with as if he had violated the formal Pledge.

5. When the term of his Pledge shall have expired. any member who desires to continue his connection with the Association shall renew his Pledge for another period; but in case he does not renew it immediately, he shall still be regarded as a member, until he tenders a written resignation of his membership, and if any such member shall drink intoxicating liquors in the interval between the expiration and renewal of his Pledge, he shall be dealt with as the Constitution directs in the case of those who violate their Pledge.

ARTICLE XIV.—VIOLATION OF PLEDGE,
ETC.

Sec. 1. Any member who shall become aware that another member has violated his Pledge, or has been guilty of any other conduct calculated to bring disgrace upon

the Association or injure its standing, shall report the fact to the Investigating Committee, and the name of the member giving such information shall not be revealed by the Committee, unless the accused member deny the charge before the Association.

2. The said Committee shall immediately investigate the matter, and if they find the charge sustained shall present a report to that effect at the next meeting of the Association; and the Corresponding Secretary shall previously notify the accused member of the intention of the Committee.

3. When the report of the Committee is presented at said Meeting, the accused member, if present, shall be called upon to answer the charge. If he acknowledges the charge, the penalty provided for in the Constitution shall be imposed; in case he denies it, the Committee shall be called on to substantiate it; should he then acknowledge the charge he shall forthwith be ex-

pelled; should he, however, persist in his denial, the Association shall decide the question by vote. Should the majority declare him guilty, he shall be expelled.

4. If a member is not present when the Committee present their report, it shall lie on the table for one week, and if he does not answer the charge at the next regular meeting, unless it be proved to the satisfaction of the Chairman that he is ill or absent from the city, he shall be adjudged guilty and the prescribed penalty imposed.

5. The penalty for the first violation of the Pledge shall be a fine of twenty-five cents; for the second such offence a fine of fifty cents, and for the third offence expulsion. Any person who has been expelled for the third offence cannot join again unless by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

6. The penalty for any offence tending

to disgrace the Association or injure its standing shall be immediate expulsion.

7. If a member fined as above does not renew his pledge and pay his fine within a week, he shall be expelled.

**ARTICLE XV.—FORFEITURE OF
MEMBERSHIP.**

Sec. 1. Any member who shall become six months in arrears for his monthly dues shall forfeit his membership, and his name shall be erased from the Roll of the Association, after due notification.

2. Any member leaving the city with the intention of residing permanently elsewhere, shall have his name erased from the roll, unless he notifies the Association of his desire to continue a member.

**ARTICLE XVI.—WITHHOLDING OR
DAMAGING PROPERTY.**

Sec. 1. Any member who shall retain, without authority, money or property be-

longing to the Association, after being notified to hand over the same to the proper officer, shall be suspended as a member for a fortnight, and if at the end of that time the money or property be not returned, he shall be liable to expulsion.

2. Any member damaging property of the Association shall be dealt with as provided in Section 1 of this Article.

ARTICLE XVII.—FINES.

Sec. 1. For leaving the room without permission of the Chairman, a member shall be fined ten cents.

2. For insulting another member, or refusing to come to order when called on by the Chairman, a member shall be fined twenty-five cents.

3. Any officer who absents himself from two consecutive meetings at roll call of officers shall be fined fifty cents—unless he furnishes a satisfactory excuse.

4. The Chairman shall decide the liability of a member to be fined under this Article; but a majority of the meeting may excuse the payment of any fine.

ARTICLE XVIII.—LITERATURE AND MUSIC.

At each meeting a programme of Literary and Musical Exercises shall be carried out, for which purpose a list shall be taken at the preceding meeting of members volunteering for Speeches, Debates, Essays, Readings, Recitations, Dialogues, Vocal and Instrumental Music.

ARTICLE XIX.—FUNERALS.

Upon the decease of any member who has been three months connected with the Association, and who is in good standing at the time of decease, being made known to the President, he shall direct the Recording Secretary to notify the Association of the day and hour at which the funeral

will take place; and all members who can conveniently attend such funeral shall do so, wearing an emblem of mourning approved of by the Association.

ARTICLE XX.—RELIGIOUS DUTIES.

It is strongly recommended that every member should approach the Sacraments of Penance and the Blessed Eucharist at least twice a year.

ARTICLE XXI.—AMENDMENTS.

Sec. 1. No motion to alter, amend, or add to this Constitution shall be discussed unless a notice of such motion be given at the previous meeting; and a two-thirds majority of the members present shall be necessary for the adoption of such alteration, amendment, or addition.

2. Any Article or Section, except Sec. 1 of this Article, may, however, be suspended for one evening by a two-thirds vote.

ARTICLE XXII.--FUNDS.

Sec. 1. The funds of this Association shall be appropriated as follows: 1st, For the regular necessary expenses of the Association; 2nd, For such other purposes as two-thirds of the members present at any regular meeting may determine; but in no case shall the sum appropriated exceed the sum of ten dollars, unless one week's notice be given of such contemplated action.

RULES OF ORDER.

1. The Chairman shall not make or second any motion, nor shall he vote on any question except in case of a tie.

2. When a member speaks, or offers a motion, he shall rise in his place and respectfully address the Chair.

3. When two or more members rise at the same time the Chairman shall decide who has the floor.

4. When a member is called to order he shall take his seat till the point is decided.

5. A motion shall be seconded, and afterwards repeated from the Chair, before it is debated.

6. No member shall speak more than twice on any subject, nor more than ten minutes each time.

7. A member who shall have made a motion may, by consent of the seconder, withdraw or alter it before it is discussed; but the consent of the meeting shall be necessary if the debate has commenced.

8. When a question is under debate, the only motions in order shall be: 1st, to amend; 2nd, to amend an amendment; 3rd, to adjourn; 4th, to lie on the table; 5th, the previous question; 6th, to postpone; 7th, to refer to a committee; 8th, to divide a motion.

9. It shall be at the discretion of the Chairman to put or not put a motion when an amendment of the nature of a full and distinct proposition is carried; and the same principle shall be applied when an amendment to an amendment of the same nature is carried.

10. A motion of adjournment shall take precedence of all other business, and shall be put to the meeting without debate or amendment.

11. When the previous question is moved and seconded it shall be put in this form: "Shall the main question be now put?" If this be carried, all further debate or amendments shall be precluded, and the question put without delay, commencing with the amendment (if any) first, and concluding with the original motion.

12. A motion of reconsideration shall not be in order unless made by a member who had previously voted with the majority.

13. A motion affecting the funds to the extent of ten dollars or more shall not be in order unless notice of such motion be given at the previous meeting.

14. When the Chairman's decision of the result of a vote is questioned, the Recording Secretary shall count the votes and report to the Chair the number of affirmative and negative votes.

15. All cases not provided for by the Constitution or Rules of Order, or not regulated by precedent, shall be decided according to Cushing's Manual.

16. All final reports of Committees shall be submitted in writing, signed by at least a majority of the committee.

RULES OF LIBRARY.

1. The Library shall be open for the distribution of books among the members, and the reception of books from them, at every regular meeting of the Association, from the hour of opening till 10 o'clock.

2. Any member desiring a book shall make his selection from the Catalogue, and request the Librarian to give him the book he desires. The Librarian alone shall be entitled to take the books off the shelves

3 No member shall be allowed to take more than one book out of the Library at a time, nor shall any member having a book out receive another until he returns the former one.

4. Any member indebted to the Association in the sum of thirty six cents or more shall not have access to the Library.

5. If a member shall keep a book out of the Library for a longer period than a month, he shall pay a fine of Ten

Cents for each week he keeps it over that time.

6. Any member who may lose or damage any book belonging to the Library shall pay to the Librarian the value of the book so lost or damaged. Should the book be one of a set, he shall procure a new copy or pay for the whole set; and such member shall not have access to the Library until such claims for loss or damage to the book shall have been settled.

ORDER OF BUISNESS.

1. Calling Society to order.
2. Roll call of Officers.
3. Reading of Minutes.
4. Initiation of Members.
5. Quarterly Official Reports.
- 6 Reports of Standing Committees.
7. Reports of Special Committees
8. Bills against the Society presented.
9. Adjourned Business.
10. Election of Officers and Standing Committees.
11. Literary and Musical Exercises.
12. Roll call of members.
13. Payment of Dues and Fines.
14. Miscellaneous Business.
15. Receipts of the evening announced.
16. Adjournment.

